

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Hisatoshi HIROTA

Serial Number: 10/658,551

Group Art Unit: 3744

Filed: September 10, 2003

Examiner: William E. Tapolcai

Confirmation No.: 3273

For: SOLINOID VALVE-EQUIPPED EXPANSION VALVE

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DATE: August 12, 2004

Sir:

In response to the requirement for an election of species dated July 13, 2004, Applicant provisionally elects the species of Species I: (Fig. 2). It is believed that claims 1-3 read on the elected species.

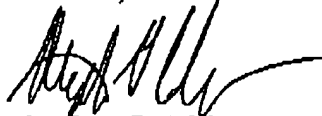
This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 USC 120 and 35 USC 121 are retained, and that the Examiner will consider other species upon allowance of a generic claim.

Applicant respectfully requests an early examination of the elected claims and favorable action on the merits. If the Examiner has any questions with this response, please feel free to call the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-2866, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



Stephen G. Adrian
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 32,878

Attorney Docket No. 031074

Suite 700
1250 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: (202) 822-1100

SGA/arf

Docket No: 031074

U.S. Patent Application

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Serial No.: 10/658,551

Applicant: Hisatoshi HIROTA

Papers filed herewith on: August 12, 2004

Other: Response to Election of Species Requirement

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed as indicated
in connection with the above-identified case.

SGA/vrf

